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Sex offender found in U.S.

Manhunt brought to a standstill as authorities explore their options for extradition PAGE 3

NO METRO ON MONDAY

HAPPY THANKSGIVING! LOOK FOR US AGAIN ON TUESDAY, AND ENJOY THIS PUMPKIN CHEESECAKE RECIPE IN THE MEANTIME PAGE 16

Lyle Stewart, a farmer and Saskatchewan's agriculture minister, stands with his combine on his acreage in Pense, west of Regina, on Thursday. He expects this to be a record year for crop yields in the province. ROSS ROMANUIK/METRO

Expect a crop to be thankful for this year

Feast from expected famine. Minister says Saskatchewan farmers have done it again

ROSS ROMANIUK
ross.romaniuk@metronews.ca

Saskatchewan's crops are worth celebrating this year, perhaps more than any other.

In all his years of farming, provincial Agriculture Minister Lyle Stewart has never seen a harvest this bountiful in Saskatchewan.

"The quality of the crop coming off all over the province is very good. And the quantity is amazing," Stewart said on Thursday during a break from combining flax on his 3,000 acres in the Rural Municipality of Pense, west of Regina.

The output, he noted, had not been expected last spring when a seemingly never-ending winter threatened to bring a very poor yield.

"In fact, I expected a rather negative outcome," he said.

"Seeding was three weeks … later than normal," he added.

"We would have expected ... to have frost damage and a lot of problems. But generally speaking, that's not the case."

Several factors, including good weather in August and September, appear to have turned farmer fortunes around.

Stewart mostly credits the knowledge, experience and innovation of Saskatchewan's farming community.

"Every year our producers get a little better," he explained.

Our cup runneth over

"This is the best production year, I think, I've ever seen."

Provincial Agriculture Minister Lyle Stewart

"Our varieties that we grow are better. They yield better. They mature quicker. The money we spend on research is not wasted. … Plus better equipment and technology and herbicides."

Stewart stresses that the strong farming output is a boon to Saskatchewan residents, no matter where they live.

"Last year, we exported $11.2 billion worth of agriculture products. We expect this to be in excess of that," he said. "It improves everybody's standard of living."

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Missing sex offender located in U.S., Edmonton police say

Tense moments. Last week, schools in several west-central Sask. communities locked their doors and kept children inside after Mounties got multiple, unconfirmed sightings

Edmonton police say a violent, high-risk sex offender who has been missing for more than a week has been located in the United States, but he can't be arrested because he's not wanted on any charges south of the border.

Edmonton Det. Chris Hayduk said U.S. border officials were warned that Michael Sean Stanley might try to cross into their country, but Stanley still managed to make it through at Blaine, Wash., south of Vancouver, on Monday night.

"We have no authority to go get him," Hayduk said.

"We are investigating his crossing, taking a look at the details of his crossing, into the United States.... For us, it would have been the best outcome to have caught him prior to that, so for him to be in the States is a concern that those agencies are going to follow up for sure."

The Canada Border Services Agency referred calls on the matter to U.S. officials.

The Washington-based spokesman for the U.S. Department of Homeland Security was not returning phone messages because of the federal government shutdown, and an email seeking comment wasn't immediately answered.

Hayduk said the shutdown hasn't had any effect on his ability to get in touch with authorities in the U.S.

Stanley has a long history of sexual offences against women and children and has been missing since Oct. 1, when the electronic monitoring bracelet he was wearing was cut off and found in Lloydminster, on the Alberta-Saskatchewan boundary.

Hayduk said there is no evidence that Stanley has reoffended while he has been on the run.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Convicted sex offender Michael Sean Stanley was the subject of a multi-province search. Edmonton police say Stanley has been located in the United States but can't be arrested because he's not wanted on any charges south of the border. LETHBRIDGE REGIONAL POLICE SERVICE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

1 NEWS

Reprimanded

Fire chief tells French resident to go back to Montreal

Officials in a small community in southern Saskatchewan have decided their volunteer fire chief will be reprimanded for having a heated argument with a French resident.

Danielle Duperre had called 911 asking for help after spotting large flames in her neighbour's fire pit in the village of Manor.

She then taped a tirade from the chief on her cellphone, during which the man swore and yelled at her to go back to Montreal.

Village administrator Lisa Ironside says the comments were inappropriate, and the mayor and council have given Duperre an apology letter.

Duperre says the fire chief, who has been unavailable for comment, can't control his anger and needs to resign from his job. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Month of October

Sale of oil and natural-gas rights down: Province

There has been a drop in the sale of oil and natural gas rights in Saskatchewan.

The province says the October sale of Crown rights has brought in $9.1 million.

That compares to $15.2 million for the same time last year.

Energy Minister Tim McMillan says the change reflects a shift in focus by the energy industry as companies drill what they already have rather than buying new rights.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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What's on this long weekend?

The holiday weekend is offering plenty of activities, sports and entertainment that Regina residents can be thankful for. So get out and enjoy!

ALYSSA MCDONALD
alyssa.mcdonald@metronews.ca

Have a pre-turkey laugh

In need of some chuckle time? Stand-up comedian Gabriel Iglesias is bringing his Hawaiian shirts, animated personality and outrageous jokes to the Conexus Arts Centre on Friday night.

Hunt for the perfect pumpkin

Get ready for hay rides, a corn maze and, of course, a search for the perfect pumpkin to carve at Pumpkin Hollow in Lumsden. The family farm usually has special events on Saturdays and is only a 15-minute drive from Regina.

Rally with Rider Nation

Football and fall just go together. After finally breaking their four-game losing streak, the Green and White are back at Mosaic Stadium against the Edmonton Eskimos on Saturday at 2:30 p.m.

Bust a move at a retro party

Break out the bright and tight outfits, plus overbearing sunglasses, for an evening of groovy hits from the '70s and '80s. Expect some serious hip-shaking at McNally's on Sunday night.

Cheer on the Pats

The Regina Pats have three games this long weekend, and two of them will be played at the Brandt Centre. Get out your pompoms and see the home side's new red third jerseys as the Pats take on the Vancouver Giants on Friday and the Brandon Wheat Kings on Monday. Puck drops at 7 p.m. for both.

Find the right pie

Getting ready to whip up your Thanksgiving meal? Pick up some fresh vegetables on Saturday at the Regina Farmers Market first. And if you're looking for a great pumpkin pie, this is a sure place to find a delicious one!

Jam to some head-banging bands

U.K-based progressive metal band TesseracT is playing the Exchange on Sunday night and is bringing Fozzy, a group best known for its lead singer — Canadian WWE wrestler Chris Jericho.

Walk around Wascana

Leaves change only once a year, and they're falling fast. Take a walk around Wascana Park and take in the fall foliage. If you want to take a stroll while helping out the Children's Wish Foundation of Saskatchewan, they're holding a fundraising walk at 11 a.m. on Sunday.

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Census refusal

S.C. won't hear woman's appeal

The Supreme Court of Canada will not hear the appeal of a Saskatoon woman who refused to fill out the 2006 long-form census.

Sandra Finley was found guilty in 2011 of contravening the Statistics Act after she refused to fill out the questionnaire.

The provincial court gave her an absolute discharge, meaning she did not face any fine or jail time. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Highways

Watch out for line-paint crews

Saskatchewan drivers are urged to use caution around highway line-painting crews.

While new construction this week includes a $1-million project to replace a bridge on Highway 2 north of Findlater, the provincial government wants motorists to remember that crews are also continuing to paint pavement into the winter. They are putting down more than 52,000 kilometres of lines. METRO

Munro 'surprised' and delighted by Nobel win

'Quite wonderful.'
Reclusive 82-year-old short-story writer only the 13th woman to win the literature prize

Book lovers around the globe celebrated Alice Munro's spare, elegant prose on Thursday when the Ontario-born author won the Nobel Prize for literature, but the reclusive short-story writer was typically succinct and humble in her reaction to the honour, calling it "quite wonderful."

"At this moment I can't believe it. It's really very wonderful," Munro said just moments after the announcement was made in Stockholm.

"I knew I was in the running, yes, but I never thought I would win." She added that she was delighted and "just terribly surprised."

In making the announcement, the Swedish Academy lauded the 82-year-old as a "master of the contemporary short story." Munro becomes the 110th Nobel laureate in literature and only the 13th woman to receive the distinction.

Reaction to those who have been touched by her work was swift and rapturous.

Ontario Premier Kathleen Wynne cited Munro's Lives of Girls and Women as a favourite, adding she is "part of a lucky population who has been forever changed by (Munro's) unparalleled ability to articulate the complexity and heartbreaks of everyday life."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Customer Greg Caws holds a copy of Alice Munro's latest book Dear Life at Munro's Books in Victoria, B.C., Thursday following the news that Munro, inset, had won the Nobel Prize for literature. CHAD HIPOLITO/THE CANADIAN PRESS; INSET: PETER MORRISON/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

Earned it

"I think my first thought was 'Finally.'"
Toronto-based writer Wayson Choy

Deserved it

"(Munro) deserves (the Nobel) more than anybody."
Novelist, short-story writer Marina Endicott

Emotional

"I thought, 'Oh, that's just marvellous.'"
Winnipeg novelist David Bergen, who "got all teary-eyed" when he heard the news

Assisted suicide. Despite setback in court, activists say they won't give up

The debate over doctor-assisted suicide seems destined once more for the Supreme Court of Canada after advocates suffered a setback Thursday in the provincial courts.

B.C.'s Court of Appeal has reversed a lower court ruling that said Canada's assisted-suicide ban violated the charter rights of gravely ill Canadians.

B.C. Civil Liberties Association lawyer Grace Pastine stood with plaintiffs Lee Carter and Hollis Johnson — whose mother, Kay Carter, fought for the right to die in Canada before obtaining an assisted suicide in Switzerland in 2010 — outside the courthouse Thursday to announce they're not giving up despite the judgment.

MATT KIELTYKA/METRO IN VANCOUVER WITH FILES FROM THE CANADIAN PRESS

New Brunswick. Former politician given 18 years in child sex-abuse case

A former municipal politician and youth worker in Saint John, N.B., abused his position of trust to sexually abuse and make pornographic images of boys for 12 years, a provincial court judge said Thursday as he sentenced Donnie Snook to 18 years in prison.

Snook, who pleaded guilty in May to 46 charges including sexual assault and possessing, distributing and making child pornography, showed no emotion as he was led away in handcuffs.

His crimes, which began in January 2001 and went on until his arrest in January of this year, involved 17 boys, most of whom were from the Saint John area and between the ages of five and 15 at the time of the offences. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Egypt. Two Canadians held without charge cleared to leave country

Egypt's foreign ministry said Thursday a travel ban has been lifted for two Canadians who were barred from leaving Egypt following several weeks of imprisonment.

Badr Abdel-Atty, Egypt's foreign ministry spokesman, said the pair has been cleared to leave Egypt "within hours."

"The prosecutor general has informed us that they are free to leave the country after the accusations against them were dropped," Abdel-Atty said, adding that the prosecutor has ended the interrogation with the Canadians and has decided to cross their name out from the list of those banned from travelling. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS WITH FILES FROM THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Libyan Prime Minister Ali Zidan, left, after being rescued from gunmen Thursday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Libya's PM safe after abduction

Brazen seizure. Prime Minister Ali Zidan abducted by gunmen in retaliation for a U.S. raid that captured an al-Qaida suspect

The abduction was brief but still audacious: Gunmen from one of Libya's many militias stormed a hotel where the prime minister has a residence and held him for several hours Thursday — apparently in retaliation for his government's alleged collusion with the U.S. in a raid last weekend that captured an al-Qaida suspect.

Armed bands rule

"Facts on the ground now are clearer than ever before: Libya is ruled by militias."
Rights campaigner Hassan al-Amin

The brazen seizure of Prime Minister Ali Zidan heightened the alarm over the power of unruly militias that virtually hold the weak central government hostage. Many of the militias include Islamic militants and have ideologies similar to al-Qaida's.

The armed bands regularly use violence to intimidate officials to sway policies, gunning down security officials and kidnapping their relatives.

At the same time, the state relies on militias to act as security forces, since the police and military remain in disarray after dictator Moammar Gadhafi was overthrown and killed in 2011.

It took other militias to rescue the PM by storming the site.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Azerbaijan

Winning a landslide before the election

Something funny happened the day before Azerbaijan's presidential election: The election commission announced the winner. On Tuesday, the smartphone app of the Central Election Commission released the results of Wednesday's vote, showing President Ilham Aliyev winning 73 per cent of the vote. The gaffe happened when the figures were released as a "test." In the real results Aliyev won by 85 per cent.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

400-plus pounds. Obese prisoner at Guantanamo appeals for release

Tarek El-Sawah is in terrible shape after 11 years as a prisoner at Guantanamo Bay, a fact even the U.S. military does not dispute.

During his time in captivity, the weight of the 55-year-old Egyptian has nearly doubled, reaching more than 420 pounds at one point, and his health has deteriorated as a result, both his lawyers and government officials concede.

Lawyers for El-Sawah, and the doctors they have taken to Cuba to examine him, paint a dire picture — a morbidly obese man with diabetes. He is short of breath, barely able to walk 10 feet and has several other ailments. His lawyers hope to have him released from the prison.

Tarek El-Sawah in an old family photo. AP

"We are very afraid that he could die at any moment," said Lt. Col. Sean Gleason, the military lawyer representing El-Sawah.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Stone-Age news: Hunter-gatherers reject farm diet

Prehistoric eats. Some Stone-Age Europeans stuck to hunter-gatherer diets long after neighbours took up farming

The discovery raises the question of whether the remains of other holdout hunter-gatherer communities are waiting to be discovered by archaeologists, UBC researchers say. GETTY IMAGES/FILE

By breaking down bones dug out of a German cave, a cutting-edge Canadian laboratory has made the puzzling discovery that some Stone Age Europeans stuck to a hunter-gatherer diet 2,000 years after their neighbours took up farming.

Agriculture first appeared around 8500 BC in present-day Syria and Turkey. Based on archeological sites scattered across Europe, many scientists have assumed that communities there abruptly stopped foraging for food starting around 3,000 years later when farming began to be introduced by peoples migrating from the east.

"It's within one or two generations that all people in the area adopt the new lifestyle," says Olaf Nehlich, a researcher at the University of British Columbia who co-authored the new research.

But isotope analysis at a UBC lab of ancient bones from a cave in Germany revealed dietary signatures that told a different story.

"What we have here ... is a unique situation where we have one group sticking around side by side with farming people for more than a thousand years," says Nehlich — 50 generations or more.

The discovery raises the question of whether the remains of other holdout hunter-gatherer communities are waiting to be discovered by archeologists — and by extension, whether agriculture was really an innovation so attractive that it swept ancient peoples by storm.

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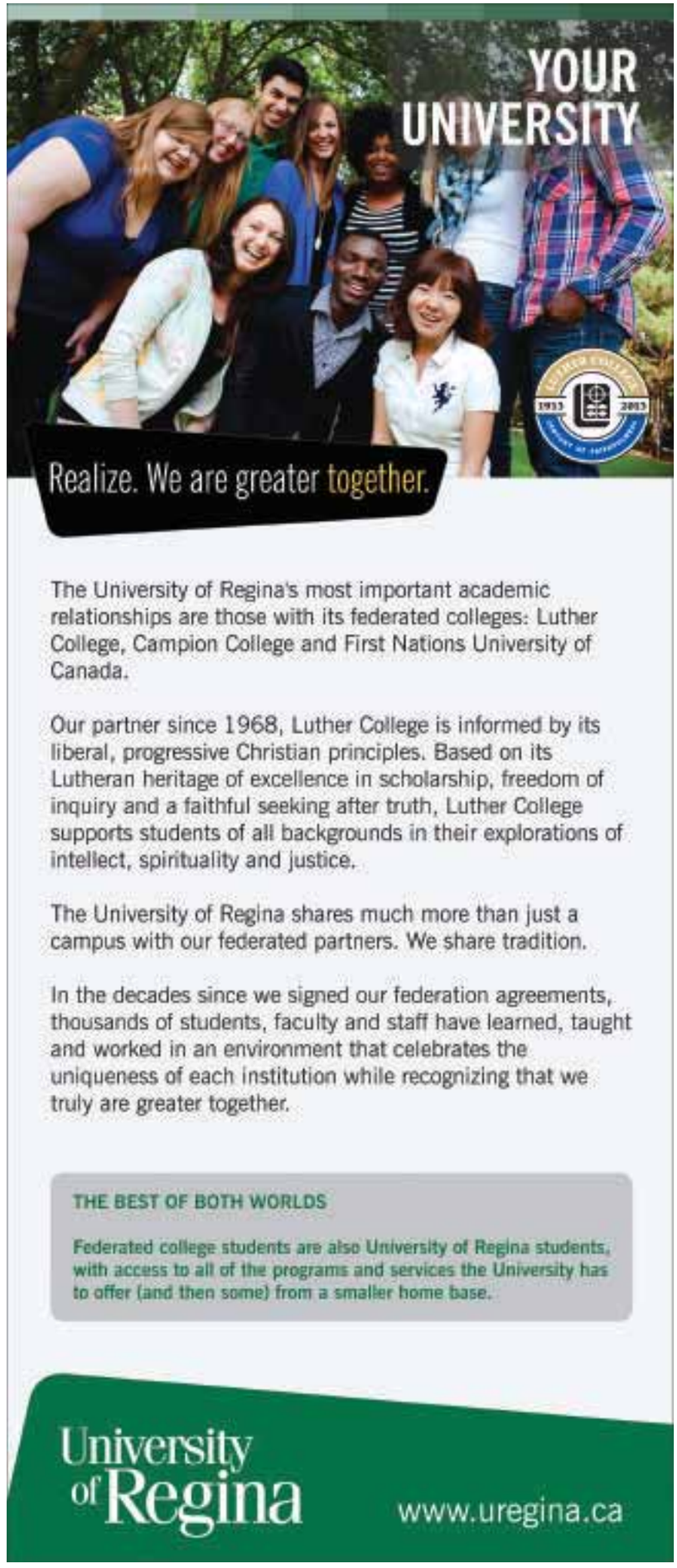
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Heartbreak in B.C. trailer park

Surrey. City has issued three orders to restore power; phone and water lines cut

KATE WEBB
Metro in Vancouver

It's been nearly four weeks since a contractor accidentally knocked out power to a Surrey, B.C., trailer park, and longtime resident Stephen Chalmers says each day is more miserable than the last.

He says surviving the chilly nights in his leaky 1989 trailer has pushed him from a fragile state into a deep depression.

"I phoned my sister yesterday and I told my sister that I didn't know if I could continue," he said on Wednesday, choking on tears. "My family don't quit, but I'm ready to quit. I don't have money. I don't have a roof or a place because this hunk of junk."

NDP MLA Sue Hammell toured the Beladean Motel and Trailer Park, where seven or so residents still live, and said the conditions are heartbreaking. Not only is the power out and the generator service unreliable, but someone has cut the phone lines and a water pipe.

"The pipe that delivered their water was cut, and it did not appear to be cut by the excavation, it appeared to be cut by other people, scroungers probably trying to get metal or cable," she said, adding the tenants fixed the water pipe themselves.

WorkSafeBC found owner K.B. Properties failed to hire a health and safety co-ordinator for demolition of the motel, resulting in unsafe asbestos removal and the power outage.

Jas Rehal, manager of bylaw enforcement, said the city has had to issue three orders to restore power after the company brought in insufficient generators and gas.

As of Thursday, the property was listed as vacant land for sale for $3.9 million, despite the fact that people still live there.

Vancouver Eviction Services president Stephano Muzzatti, who was hired by K.B. Properties to evict some of the residents, told Metro he was "irate" when he learned of the state of the park. On Thursday, he threatened to resign unless the owners provide an industrial generator and a security guard to stop looters and vandals.

Reached by phone Thursday, Roshan Arora, who is the property owner's brother and representative, said he was out shopping for an industrial generator as requested.

"After a couple of days, things will be OK," he said, when asked when the power would be restored.

That is no comfort to Chalmers, who is on disability due to mental health issues and is a recovering crack addict, clean for five years. His one comfort, his dog Spaghetti, is with a friend so she doesn't drink water leaking from his ceiling.

"I don't have a way to live a normal life at this point in time. I've done everything I can for myself to get better and it makes me feel like I'm an inconsequential piece of garbage that nobody wants to help, and I don't understand that.

"I just want a trailer that I can park on a place and pay my rent and have my little dog so I've got somebody to love."

Heartbreak motel

Marilyn Chase is desperate to help her brother, Stephen Chalmers, find a new home. She has started a crowdfunding campaign on FundRazr with Metro's help.

- Most parks won't accept him as his 1989 trailer is too old and lacks proper certifications. Chase is trying to raise $5,000 to get him a used but newer one.
- **To donate, visit** metronews.ca/newtrailer

Stephen Chalmers is desperate to escape the Beladean Motel and Trailer Park in Surrey. JENNIFER GAUTHIER/METRO

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Oh, um, no I'm not *that* Rogers

#$@* you, @Rogers!

Affable Aussie transplant laughs off misdirected online ire during outage

Glenn Rogers of Brooklyn, N.Y., has the @Rogers handle on Twitter. TWITTER

When Glenn Rogers's cellphone started vibrating uncontrollably Wednesday, he knew the cause immediately.

"Nothing like another Rogers outage to liven up my feed," he tweeted.

Glenn is the proud owner of the @rogers handle on Twitter. On most days, the Brooklyn resident receives only 100 or so messages from confused Rogers Communications customers, but during Wednesday's three-hour network outage, his Twitter feed exploded.

"It's almost instantaneous," the human Rogers said. "The moment people lose their Internet or their phone, they take to Twitter to voice their rage."

Canadian Rogers customers bombarded Glenn with misplaced abuse, much of it unfit for print. However, in between all the swearing and name-calling, plenty of others jumped to his defence.

"The people who see the situation for what it is really get a kick out of it," he said. "And it's great to see people defending me without even knowing me."

LUKE SIMCOE/METRO

Send your Twitter rage here

Note: Direct any real complaints to Rogers Communications at @RogersHelps

The old college try

BlackBerry's saviour could be original founders

Mike Lazaridis and Douglas Fregin are looking at making a potential takeover bid for the troubled smartphone maker. The two have "the goal of stabilizing and ultimately reinventing the company," according to a U.S. SEC filing.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Market Minute

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SECOND BIG BANG THEORY CONFIRMED

THE METRO LIST

Mike Benhaim
metronews.ca

1 **C'est la vie.** Claire Le Bel, mayoral candidate of Laval, the city just north of Montreal, is requesting police protection after her campaign manager was assaulted. The attack followed the release of recorded conversations with her former boss and long-time mayor, Gilles Vaillancourt. Vaillancourt is currently facing criminal charges for "gangsterism," or as it's called in Montreal, "politics."

2 **Sexy thangs.** Esquire magazine named Scarlett Johansson the sexiest woman alive for the second time. While many of us agree that she is sexy, the title of "sexiest" is very subjective. A tip to men choosing to engage in public controversy, the correct answer should invariably be (insert name of wife or girlfriend here).

3 **Splitsville, U.S.A.** Bruce and Kris Jenner have officially separated. With no pre-nuptial agreement in place, the enterprising Kardashian baby-mama is likely to pack a huge financial punch. My advice to the Olympian: Better eat your Wheaties before the milk runs out. Divorce proceedings can be seen on Fox.

4 **Till you drop.** A study released by the National Academy of Sciences this week uncovered the mystery of marsupial male deaths after mating. Apparently the female only accepts male suitors once a year for the sole purpose of reproduction. This encourages competition in males who save their sperm and energy for something of a "big bang marathon," which lasts for 12 to 14 hours and repeats several times until they eventually die of stress. They needed a study for this?

5 **Hockey Night in Canada.** Note to women: Attempting unscheduled discussions expecting more than a monosyllabic response from spouses during NHL games is considered interference and will result in a penalty. Note to husbands: Invoking said penalty may result in changes to the mating schedule (see number four).

6 **Say what?** A Nobel Prize in physics was awarded to Peter Higgs and François Englert for discovering the Higgs boson, a.k.a. "the God particle," which confers mass to elementary particles. This is controversial because several physicists experienced simultaneous breakthroughs. Some scientists were upset and considered taking it before the courts until their lawyers explained that no one would understand what the heck they were talking about.

7 **In the mix.** Red Bull's Thre3style National DJ Finals were held last Sunday at Cowboy's Dance Hall in Calgary. The crowd was treated to some funktastic sets by eight of Canada's finest. Quebec's Adam (Doubleyou) White won the honour of representing Canada at the world finals, which this year will be held in clubs across Toronto from Nov. 4 to 9. Book your spot at redbull.ca/3styletickets.

8 **This week in music.** On Oct. 9, 1975, Sean Lennon, the only child of John and Yoko, was born, prompting the former Beatle toward a musical hiatus in favour of being a full-time father and husband. Sean went on to become a singer, songwriter, musician and actor. Oh, also born on Oct. 9 ... John Lennon.

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ZOOM

Berlin is looking bright these days

BRITTA PEDERSEN/DPA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Shining city tells many stories

The installation Waechter der Zeit (Guardians of the Time) stands in front of the Berlin Cathedral during the festival of lights.

The festival of lights illuminates numerous famous landmarks, streets, squares and hot spots in the German capital through Oct. 20. In addition to the light exhibits, the festival holds many events and musical performances all connected by the light theme.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

One of the largest of its kind

2 million

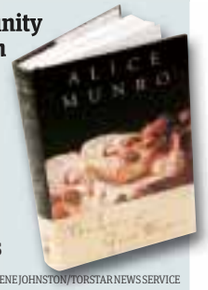
visitors flock to the event, now in its ninth year, and the city sees an additional 600,000 people come from out of town. The festival has garnered international attention and is now one of the largest light festivals in the world.

Lamps shaped as ships are seen in a water basin next to Potsdam Square, Berlin. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Clickbait

ANDREW FIFIELD
andrew.fifield@metronews.ca

Thursday gave us all an opportunity to puff with patriotic pride when it was announced that national treasure Alice Munro had won the 2013 Nobel Prize for literature. So whether you want to read Munro's work for the first time, or are interested in checking out some other short story writers, here's a few good places to start.



RENE JOHNSTON/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

The New Yorker:

Let's start with the master herself. The New Yorker is one of Alice Munro's unofficial homes, and the archive on their website is a treasure trove of her work that reaches back through the years. Many of them are locked behind a subscriber paywall, but it'll be a long time before you run out of free content. (newyorker.com)

East of the Web:

Feel free to pluck a story out of the thousands available from professional and amateur in whichever genre you choose — provided your tastes aren't hopelessly niche. The sci-fi collection is particularly robust. (eastoftheweb.com)

Bibliofaction:

Another huge depository à la East of the Web, except buoyed by a strong and supportive community that we've heard can be quite helpful to aspiring short story authors ready to begin building their own case for a Nobel Prize. (bibliofaction.com)

Twitter

@metropicks asked: An NYC restaurant forbids chit chatting while dining. Would you eat there?

@BVAssociation: The food better be outstanding to earn our silence and increased attention.

@BrianObie1: this is nothing more than a ploy to get people in and out quickly and make more $$$$

@chantalehoney: that sounds wonderful! My kids talk so much, I'd love a quiet meal!

@BlakeHusky: Finally, a restaurant I can take my mother-in-law to.

@serpentina66: ew. All you'd hear is smacking, slurping, chewing, and loud swallowing.

@Lalu31: I wouldn't. Soup slurping, forks scraping against plates, and general chewing sounds would be heightened in silence!Need convo

Follow @metropicks and take part in our daily poll.

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Send us your comments: reginaletters@metronews.ca

metro

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Synopsis

Based on the true story of Captain Richard Phillips (Tom Hanks) who took on a routine voyage around the Horn of Africa in April 2009 when his ship was attacked by Somali Pirates led by Muse (Barkhad Abdi). "Nobody gets hurt," Muse says. "It's just business." But business turns violent when it becomes clear the million-dollar payday Muse and company were expecting isn't going to pan out. As the situation escalates Phillips is taken aboard a life raft, kidnapped, bound for Somalia where he'll be held for ransom.

- Richard: ●●●●○
- Mark: ●●●●○

Reel Guys

RICHARD CROUSE AND MARK BRESLIN

Tom Hanks is a mix of heroic and stoic in Captain Phillips. CONTRIBUTED

Captain with a hook

Pitted against pirates. Tom Hanks puts forth a powerful performance in the spellbinding Captain Phillips

Richard: Mark, I don't think it's fair to charge audiences full price for screenings of Captain Phillips. While watching this I was reminded of the old Monster Trucks ads that bellowed, "You pay for the whole seat but you'll only need the edge!" Director Paul Greengrass is a master of action who does a great job of portraying the vastness of the ocean and the isolation of the ship and its crew. I was dangling off the front of my seat from about the 30 minute mark. You?

Mark: Yes, in fact I was so on edge I have a slice-mark across my butt. I was so grateful the movie doesn't waste a lot of time going into the backstories of the crew. The pirates arrive quickly and brutally. I was worried we'd have to endure a lot of bleeding heart nonsense about the pirates and their "point of view." But that is kept to a minimum and the bad guys get to be bad guys and Tom Hanks, once again, can be a saint among men.

RC: I thought Hanks was terrific here. He is saintly, but he's also heroic and stoic. I think it might have been easy to overplay this role but he keeps it subdued for the most part. (SPOILER ALERT) It's only in the film's final moments, when the ordeal is over, that Hanks really unloads with the kind of raw and shell shocked reaction that the Academy is going to love.

MB: The Academy may also love the Somali pirate captain, Barkhad Abdi, who goes toe to toe with Hanks through the whole movie. I haven't seen such a scary, haunting face since the days of German Expressionist cinema! The movie is riveting, but it isn't surprising. There's only one way this movie can end and it should be obvious halfway through. That having been said, I have no fingernails left.

RC: Abdi is great. This is an action movie and as written he is primarily a plot device to keep the action moving forward, but despite an underwritten part he brings some humanity to the villain role. His explanation for his way of life, that he is a victim of limited opportunity and not a bad man, helps place his actions in context.

MB: Greengrass has passed this way before, in United 93. But this is a lesser known story, so it's easier to tense up and enjoy it.

NEED A RIDE?
Read metrodrive every Wednesday.
metronews.ca

Sarah Paulson embraces her dark side in latest role

12 Years a Slave. Actress says Mistress Epps is her most violent role to date and she doesn't plan on going that dark again

NED EHRBAR
Metro World News in Hollywood

Sarah Paulson is the petty, defensive Mistress Epps in 12 Years A Slave. CONTRIBUTED

Sarah Paulson goes to some impressively dark, violent places in director Steve McQueen's brutal and arresting 12 Years a Slave as Mistress Epps, the petty and defensive wife of Michael Fassbender's malicious plantation owner. And to think, "Michael Fassbender's wife" sounds like such an appealing job description.

This isn't what you imagined being married to Michael Fassbender would be like, is it?

It sure isn't. Every single person asked me when I told them. They were like, "What are you going to do?" And I told them, "I'm doing this movie 12 Years a Slave. I play Michael Fassbender's wife." And before I got to the part about what it's about, they were like, "Wait, wait, wait. Do you get to kiss him?" And I was like, "Ah … it's not that kind of movie, so unfortunately no." But from an acting standpoint it's everything I could've hoped for.

It's remarkable that even with this big of an ensemble you still get a chance to make your impact. What was your route into understanding your character?

I didn't want to judge her, even though I think she behaves despicably and does indefensible things, without question — and I'm not looking to justify her behaviour on her behalf. But in terms of an actor trying to find a way into something, I had to figure out the motivating factors, and what was motivating her behaviour was her terrible fear that she was about to lose her husband — or had lost her husband — along with the respect in her household, the opinion of her in the community, all of it. It's very embarrassing, and I think for someone like Mistress Epps, I don't think she is a deeply complicated person. I'm not saying she's dumb, but I don't think she is emotionally or psychologically savvy. So instead I think she just went the only way she knows how, which is in my mind kind of like the way an animal defends its turf.

She does have a considerable amount of power over Master Epps, though.

She does, she does. Because I think she thinks he's weak, and when she sees his weakness she goes for it. Master Epps is really in love with Patsy, but he hates himself for it. His own love for her is despicable to him and he knows it can't be and it's not right, and my character plays on that fear in him and gets him to act out based on that ill feeling inside of himself, and that's where her power lies.

Have you ever done anything onscreen as violent as what you do in this film?

No, never. Never. And I hope to never again, although I do feel that it was very important for the narrative that it be as strong as that, to really show what was endured. The brutality of it, to me, is absolutely important and imperative to the telling of this story. I just feel that without it, it would lose part of what feels so insanely authentic about the movie.

FROM THE DIRECTOR OF
"THE BOURNE ULTIMATUM"
OUT HERE SURVIVAL IS EVERYTHING
STARTS TODAY
COLUMBIA PICTURES PRESENTS A SCOTT RUDIN / MICHAEL DE LUCA / TRIGGER STREET PRODUCTION A FILM BY PAUL GREENGRASS TOM HANKS "CAPTAIN PHILLIPS" BARKHAD ABDI MUSIC BY HENRY JACKMAN
PG Violence Coarse Language
Check Theatre Directory or SonyPicturesReleasing.ca for Locations and Showtimes

Action

Machete Kills

Director. Robert Rodriguez

Stars. Danny Trejo, Michelle Rodriguez

●●●○○

If you're not already on board with the grindhouse resurgence, this movie is not for you. Machete is once again pulled into U.S./Mexico politics, this time by the U.S. president who's tasked him with stopping a bi-polar revolutionary who's got a missile pointed at the U.S. (the trigger is rigged to his heart beat). Buoyed by a bigger budget, Rodriguez goes all out in this sequel. But in the constant jumping around, he quickly loses the plot. Still there's enough blood shed and stunt casting to carry the film.

IAN GORMELY

Romance

The Right Kind of Wrong

Director. Jeremiah S. Chechik

Stars. Ryan Kwanten, Catherine O'Hara

●●●○○

The Right Kind of Wrong has a kind of identity crisis. Not only does the Canadian rom-com cater to clichéd mainstream conventions but it distractingly works in foul (and mostly flat) gags involving testicles and incontinence in Paris. True Blood's Ryan Kwanten is appealing enough as a phobic, failed writer trying to inexplicably woo a newly-married woman, but here's a tip to future filmmakers: If a mountainous setting upstages the cast, your film's in all kinds of trouble.

STEVE GOW

Drama

Romeo and Juliet

Director. Carlo Carlei

Stars. Hailee Steinfeld, Douglas Booth

●●○○○

Downton Abbey guru Julian Fellowes and director Carlo Carlei take a crack at Shakespeare's doomed teen lovers, and the results are barely worthy of a catty dismissal by the Dowager Countess. Somehow Fellowes — who gets credit for the screenplay here — manages to significantly shorten the play and still make this version feel unending. It's so bland, lifeless and unnecessary that you find yourself watching the kids pine and think, "Just die already so we can get out of here."

NED EHRBAR

Drama

The Spectacular Now

Director. James Ponsoldt

Stars. Miles Teller, Shailene Woodley

●●●●○

The Spectacular Now may be this generation's The Breakfast Club. Its by no means as funny (nor does it intend to be) but similar themes (and even the tidy use of personal essay as epilogue) are definitely present. In the film, a charming teen reluctantly falls for his rebound girlfriend even as he battles burgeoning alcoholism and a fuzzy future. Deftly directed by James Ponsoldt (Smashed), few films deal with teenage drama with such skilled tenderness.

STEVE GOW

The right kind of mom

"I've never played a perfect mother. They're well-meaning, but definitely not perfect. So they know from that and that's why (they cast me)? That's nice, I'm glad they're thinking of me. I'm glad they grew up and started making good movies, that's nice. I'll be part of that, please."

Catherine O'Hara on an entire generation thinking of her as a bad mother, thanks in large part to her role as forgetful mom Kate McAllister in Home Alone 23 years ago. She continues the trend with a pair of films this fall, A.C.O.D. and The Right Kind of Wrong.
NED EHRBAR, METRO WORLD NEWS

THESE PAGES COVER MOVIE START TIMES FROM FRI., OCT. 11 TO THURS., OCT. 17 TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

Southland Mall 3025 Gordon Rd.

Captain Phillips (PG) No Passes Fri 6:50-9:50 No Passes Sat-Mon 12:50-3:50-6:50-9:50 No Passes Tue-Thu 5:05-8:05
Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs 2 (G) Sat-Mon 2 Tue-Thu 5:20
Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs 2 3D (G) Fri 7:35-9:55 Sat-Mon 5-7:35-9:55 Tue-Thu 7:40
The Conjuring (14A) Fri-Mon 9:20 Tue-Thu 7:50
Despicable Me 2 (G) Fri 6:55 Sat-Mon 1:15-3:45-6:55 Tue-Thu 5:10
Enough Said (PG) Fri 7:50-10:15 Sat-Mon 1:55-4:50-7:50-10:15 Tue-Thu 5:55-8:30
Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1
The Family (14A) Fri 7:25-10 Sat-Mon 1:25-4:40-7:25-10 Tue-Thu 4:55-7:30
Gravity 3D (PG) No Passes Fri 7:55-10:15 No Passes Sat-Mon 1:45-4:30-7:55-10:15 No Passes Tue-Thu 6-8:25
Lee Daniels' The Butler (PG) Fri 7:05-10 Sat-Mon 1-4:05-7:05-10 Tue-Thu 4:50-7:45
Percy Jackson: Sea of Monsters (PG) Sat-Mon 1:40
Percy Jackson: Sea of Monsters 3D (PG) Fri 7:10-9:35 Sat-Mon 4:15-7:10-9:35 Tue-Thu 5:35-8:10
Planes (G) Sat-Mon 1:30
Rush (14A) Fri 7:20-10:05 Sat-Mon 1:10-4:20-7:20-10:05 Tue-Thu 5:25-8:15 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1
We're the Millers (14A) Fri 7:40-10:10 Sat-Mon 4-7:40-10:10 Tue-Thu 5:45-8:20

Galaxy Cinemas Normanview S.C. 420 McCarthy Blvd. N. Unit

Captain Phillips (PG) No Passes Fri 4:05-7:05-10:15 No Passes Sat 12:55-4-7:05-10:15 No Passes Sun-Mon 1:10-4:10-7:10-10:15 No Passes Tue-Thu 7:05-10:05
Carrie (STC) Thu 10
Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs 2 (G) Sat 11:30
Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs 2 3D (G) Fri 4:15-6:55-9:20 Sat 2-4:30-6:55-9:20 Sun-Mon 1:15-4:05-6:55-9:15 Tue-Thu 6:55-9:30
Don Jon (18A) Fri 4:50-7:50-10:05 Sat 4:45-7:50-10:05 Sun 1-3:15-5:30-7:55-10:10 Mon 3:15-5:30-7:55-10:10 Tue 8-10:20 Wed 10:15 Thu 10:30
Escape Plan (14A) Thu 10
Funny Girl (STC) Sun 12:45
Gravity 3D (PG) No Passes Fri 4:35-7:35-9:55 No Passes Sat 12:35-2:55-5:15-7:35-9:55 No Passes Sun-Mon 2:55-5:15-7:35-9:55 No Passes Tue-Thu 7:20-9:40
Insidious: Chapter 2 (14A) Fri 5-7:55-10:25 Sat 12-2:35-5:10-7:55-10:25 Sun 5:10-7:50-10:20 Mon 2:35-5:10-7:50-10:20 Tue 7:45-10:20 Wed-Thu 7:45
Machete Kills (14A) Fri 4:45-7:40-10:20 Sat 11:40-2:20-5-7:40-10:20 Sun-Mon 2:20-5-7:40-10:15 Tue-Wed 7:25-10 Thu 7:25-10:10
National Theater Live - MacBeth (STC) Thu 7
National Theatre Live: Othello - Encore (STC) Sat 12:30
Prisoners (14A) Fri 6:50-10:10 Sat 12:10-3:30-6:50-10:10 Sun-Mon 3:30-6:50-10:10 Tue-Wed 6:50-10:10 Thu 6:50
The Right Kind of Wrong (14A) Fri 4:30-7:20-9:50 Sat 12:05-2:30-4:55-7:20-9:50 Sun-Mon 2:30-4:55-7:20-9:45 Tue-Wed 7:40-10:05 Thu 7:35-10:15
Romeo & Juliet (PG) Fri 4:20-7:10-10 Sat 1:30-4:20-7:10-10 Sun-Mon 1:35-4:20-7:05-9:50 Tue-Thu 7:10-9:55
Royal Ballet: Don Quixote (STC) Wed 7
Runner Runner (14A) Fri 5:05-7:25-9:45 Sat 2:45-5:05-7:25-9:45 Sun-Mon 2:45-5:05-7:25-9:40 Tue-Wed 7:55-10:15 Thu 7:55-10:10
Wallace & Gromit in The Curse of the Were-Rabbit (G) Sat 11

Kramer IMAX Theatre 2903 Powerhouse Dr.

Elysium: The IMAX Experience (14A) Fri 3:30-7 Sat-Sun 1-7 Mon 1 Thu 3:30
Flying Monsters 3D (STC) Fri 2:15 Sat-Sun 4:45 Mon 3:30 Tue 1-3:30 Wed 2:15-3:30 Thu 1-7
Rocky Mountain Express (STC) Fri 1 Sat-Sun 3:30 Mon 4:45 Tue 2:15 Wed 1 Thu 2:15

Golden Mile 3806 Albert St.

Blue Jasmine (PG) Fri-Thu 1:15-3:55-6:50 Fri-Thu 9:20
Elysium (14A) Fri-Thu 1:10-3:50-6:40-9:10
Grown Ups 2 (PG) Fri 1:20-4-9:20 Sat-Thu 1:20-4-6:50-9:20
Kick-Ass 2 (14A) Fri-Thu 9:25
Monsters University (G) Fri-Thu 1:25-4:05-6:45
The Mortal Instruments: City of Bones (PG) Fri-Thu 1:15-3:55-6:50
The Spectacular Now (14A) Fri-Thu 1:30-4:05-7-9:25
The Wolverine (14A) Fri-Sat 1:10-3:45-6:35-9:15 Sun 1:10-3:45-9:15 Mon-Thu 1:10-3:45-6:35-9:15
The World's End (14A) Fri-Thu 1:15-3:50-6:35-9:15

Regina Public Library Film Theatre, 23 11 12th Ave.

The Ghosts in Our Machine (STC) Fri 7 Sat 9 Sun 7
No Films Showing Today (STC) Mon-Tue
A People Uncounted (STC) Thu 9
Scatter My Ashes at Bergdorf's (STC) Fri 9 Sat 7 Sun 9
Taste the Blood of Dracula (STC) Wed 7 Thursday Till Sunday (STC) Thu 7

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High on life ... and marijuana

A$AP Rocky. New York's rapper of the moment tells Metro why fashion is his biggest influence, amid a haze of green

RICHARD PECKETT
scene@metronews.ca

"I'm not going to lie, drugs have influenced my life; I do smoke a lot of marijuana," slurs the guy who gave up dealing drugs two years ago.

Even over the telephone, it's unarguably clear in his smoke-soaked voice. At this point, the interview mimics those post-party dead-hour stoner chats where conversation falls somewhere between the profound and the prosaic.

"Smoking together, bonging together, that's where you meet some of your closest friends — it's like a token of friendship."

The combination of drug talk and toking has brought the hip hop artist to his open-your-mind optimum, continuing.

"It's an international language of love. There's no skin colour barriers or no shit like that; everything is one colour and that's purple baby —everything is motherf—ing purple."

A$AP Rocky's the ultimate hip hop protagonist in a world where he's "free to do whatever I want."

He bagged a $3 million dollar deal with Sony-RCA's subdivision Polo Grounds Music. The dollar sign in the crews' name is now justified. And his debut album Long.Live.A$AP went straight to number one on the Billboard 200.

But like demigods before him, Rocky's success is sewn in that murky mortal world where the rise and fall of celebrity is celebrated in equal measure — a place where Rocky's not master.

Days before this interview, the 24-year-old (real name Rakim Mayers) was charged with assault after allegedly slapping a female fan at a festival in Philadelphia. His management was cagey: Rocky's stoned. You'll agree there's a certain irony in his F—kin' Problems lyrics: "I love bad bitches, that's my f—kin' problem."

But as the Harlem-born rapper says, "You know, I'm not an angel, we all know that, but I do love good people."

Love, or rather lust, is another liberal endeavor for Rocky. He's a boundless shagger of priapic proportions, with groupies genuflecting before the altar of the hip hop collective A$AP Mob.

And "good" seems to refer to beautiful people: A$AP Rocky had a string of real and rumoured alliances with rapper Iggy Azalea, model Chanel Iman, who was at his side at the VMAs, and apparently Rihanna.

But he is in fact, referring to Raf Simons, creative director at Christian Dior. Rocky loves clothes (Alexander Wang cast him in the Spring 2013 promo of his own diffusion line T by Alexander Wang).

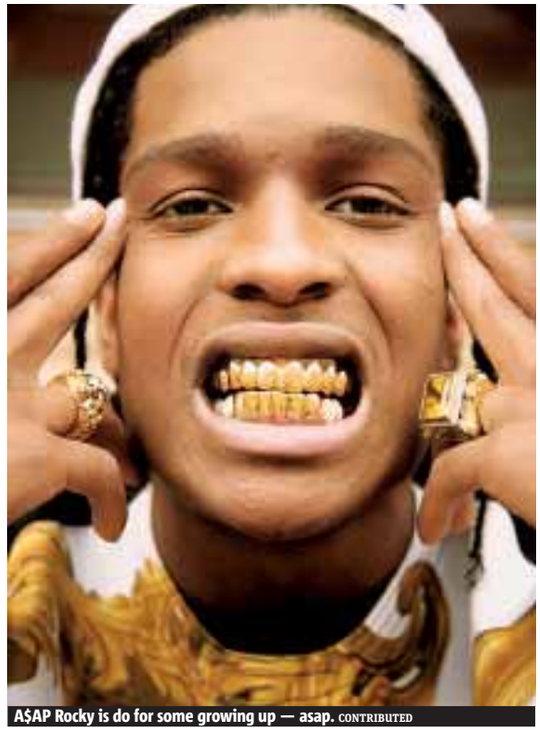
"I appreciate and admire high-end fashion and streetwear in the same way people love a sports team," he dozily enthuses.

In fact, the mention of fashion is enough to draw the rapper out of his green-induced slumber.

"Raf Simons is one of my biggest influences, he actually influences my music," he says.

The days of rappers name-checking those '90s household designers like Versace, Dolce & Gabbana and Tommy Hilfiger are over, but few could academically discuss the finer points of Simons, Rick Owens and Jeremy Scott. Amidst the fog of weed there is some sense in Rocky's mellow world.

But he'll need to reign in the nonsense if more converts are to join the masses in chanting: "Long.Live. A$AP."



A$AP Rocky is do for some growing up — asap. CONTRIBUTED

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Janelle Monae's music is out of this world

New music. The R&B singer pays tribute to a pair of little known female pioneers on her new album

CHRIS JORDON
Metro World News

Though rising R&B star Janelle Monae sometimes seems absorbed in a futuristic world of androids and clones, she pays homage in song to two real-life female groundbreakers on her brand new album, The Electric Lady: astronaut Sally Ride and actress Dorothy Dandridge.

"The Electric Lady are the ladies who are out there in this world and should be respected," Monae says.

Dandridge in 1954 was the first African American to be nominated for an Academy Award for best actress, for her role in Carmen Jones. Monae extols the virtues of the actress in the jazzy Dorothy Dandridge Eyes.

Respect given

"I thought it was important to pay homage to her."

Janelle Monae
Speaking about astronaut Sally Ride

Ride's service on the crew of the space shuttle Challenger in 1983 made her the first American woman in space. Monae's rock 'n' roll ballad Sally Ride on The Electric Lady is a funky space oddity.

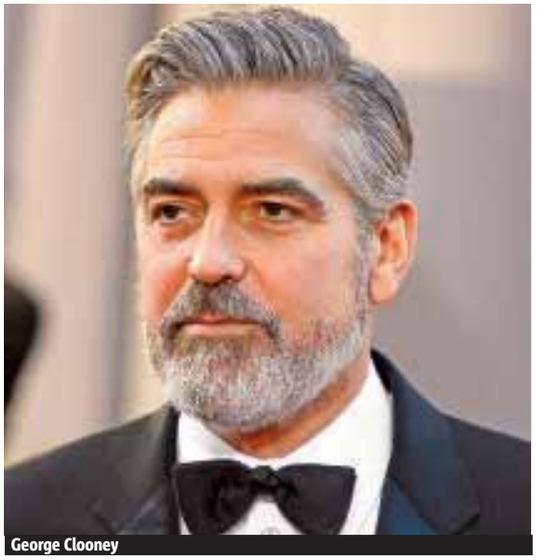
"She was definitely working as an astronaut during a time when women were not being accepted; she was the minority," Monae says of the late Ride. "I thought it was important to pay homage to her and tell her story and also she was in a same-sex relationship for a while … and women who were in same sex relationships would definitely be fired or discriminated against because of their sexual orientation."

Recognizing this is all part of the Electric Lady concept.

Despite paying tribute to those who reached the stratosphere, Janelle Monae's work remains down to earth. GETTY IMAGES

METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES



George Clooney

Humble Clooney deflects credit back to his director

While director Alfonso Cuaron has been crediting Gravity star George Clooney for penning a key scene in the film that wasn't working during the script-writing process, Clooney himself insists he had nothing to do with it. "I didn't write any scene. That scene was there from the minute I was handed the script," he tells the Wrap. "Alfonso's such a sweet guy. He hands out credit to everyone all the time."

Damn that guy's good looking but I'm straight for now, says Hutcherson

Hunger Games star Josh Hutcherson is pretty forward-thinking when it comes to sexuality, telling Out magazine that he considers himself "mostly straight" in a recent interview. "Maybe I could say right now I'm 100 per cent straight, but who knows? In a f—ing year I could meet a guy and be like, 'Whoa, I'm attracted to this person,'" the 20-year-old actor says. "I've met guys all the time that I'm like, 'Damn, that's a good-looking guy,' you know? I've never been like, 'Oh, I want to kiss that guy.' I really love women. But I think defining yourself as 100 per cent anything is kind of near-sighted and close-minded."

Josh Hutcherson. ALL IMAGES GETTY

Twitter

@ElizabethHurley
Brrrrr....v wintery today. Seeing how many thermals I can fit under my costume.

@johncusack
I don' know how much u can do in six seconds on vine - just random chaos I guess !!

@TheRealRosanne
question: where is Miley's mom? If I was her, Miley would be locked up in rehab right now. WTF? Where's the mother?

The Word

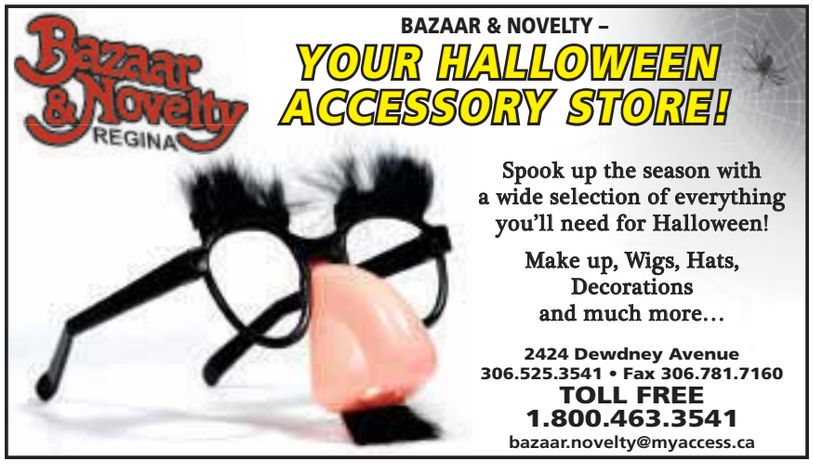
Office star Robinson has narrow escape from paradise

MELINDA TAUB
Metro World News

Comedian Craig Robinson learned an important lesson recently. Robinson was in the Bahamas to perform at the Atlantis resort. When he tried to board his return flight to the United States, authorities found he was carrying half a gram of marijuana and 18 ecstasy pills, and arrested him for drug possession, according to TMZ.

Robinson appeared before a magistrate in a shirt and shorts, where he got off relatively easy with a $1,000 fine and a promise to swiftly leave the country. Robinson reportedly told the judge that he'd brought the drugs with him from the United States and claimed he didn't know they were illegal in the Bahamas (as opposed to the United States of America where you can freely buy ecstasy at any WalMart?)

Anyway, it all worked out fine. The people of the United States got their Craig Robinson back. The U.S. will not have to go to war with the Bahamas to retrieve him. And the moral of this story is: don't bring ecstasy to the Bahamas, guys.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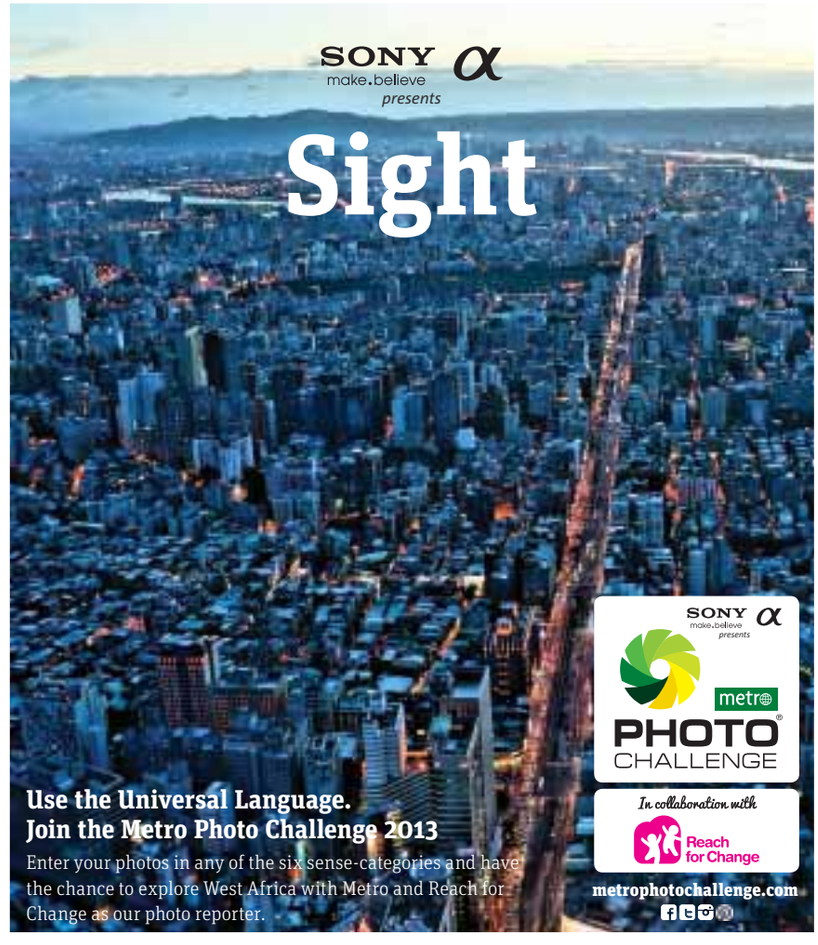


Liquid Assets

Complement sweet endings

LIQUID ASSETS
Peter Rockwell
@therealwineguy
liquidassets@eastlink.ca

Unless you're eating way outside the box, odds are you'll be having some turkey this Thanksgiving.

Even with the sides that join in on the celebration, the big bird and all its trimmings is a pretty accommodating wine partner. It loves a medium-bodied chardonnay or richer sauvignon blanc, or if you prefer red, a juicy Beaujolais from France or a lightly rustic Spanish Rioja.

When it comes to a liquid partner, today's feature recipe has two strikes against it: It's a dessert, and a blend of vegetable and spice that are both notorious wine killers.

Port, Portugal's fortified gift to the world, has the body and thickness of flavour to stand up to this mouthful of eclecticism, while offering a sweetness level that complements, rather than competes.

Taylor's First Estate Reserve Port ($16.45 to $22.99) is a lighter-bodied version with balanced tannins and a rolling, ripe-fruited core of plum and blackcurrant that will play well with this cheesecake's main components while adding a palate warming finish to your holiday feast. **PRICES REFLECT THE RANGE ACROSS THE COUNTRY. SOME PRODUCTS MAY NOT BE AVAILABLE IN ALL PROVINCES.**

This recipe serves 12. ROSE REISMAN

Pumpkin Cheesecake steals turkey's shine

Thanksgiving. This dessert will make a beautiful centrepiece

ROSE REISMAN
For more, visit rosereisman.com or follow her on twitter @rosereisman

If you want a delicious yet lighter dessert for Thanksgiving or the upcoming holiday season, this is the perfect cheesecake to complete your meal.

This can be made a couple of days in advance or frozen for up to six weeks.

1. Preheat oven to 350 F. Spray a 9-inch springform pan with vegetable spray

2. Crust: Combine all ingredients until mixture comes together. Pat over bottom of baking dish.

3. In the bowl of a large food processor purée all ingredients for filling until smooth. Pour over top crust.

4. Topping: Place sour cream in a small plastic baggie. Snip off the end corner of the bag. Carefully draw approximately 8 straight lines through the top of the cheesecake. With a pointed knife or toothpick gently pull a line through the lines to make the pattern in the photo on this page.

5. Bake the Pumpkin Cheesecake for 40 minutes just until centre is still slightly loose. Chill before serving.

Ingredients

Crust
- 1 1/2 cups graham cracker crumbs
- 2 tbsp sugar
- 2 tbsp vegetable oil
- 2 tbsp water
- 1/4 tsp ground cinnamon

Filling
- 1 lb light cream cheese cut into cubes
- 2 eggs
- 3/4 cup canned pumpkin purée
- 1/2 cup low fat sour cream
- 2/3 cup brown sugar
- 1/2 cup granulated sugar
- 1 tsp ground cinnamon
- 1/4 tsp ginger powder
- 3 tbsp all purpose flour

Topping
- 1/4 cup low fat sour cream

Patriots' defence tasked with cooling down Brees

NFL. High-powered Saints represent New England's toughest test of season so far

The New England Patriots will be in tough trying to stop New Orleans Saints quarterback Drew Brees, left, and his favourite passing target, Jimmy Graham, on Sunday. CHRIS GRAYTHEN/GETTY IMAGES

Aqib Talib will be focused on Drew Brees.

The New Orleans quarterback likely won't be looking back at him, though.

"He's great at that. He'll never stare down a receiver and throw it straight to him," New England's cornerback said. "He's going to look you off on screens and everything. He's going to do a great job with his eyes."

So, while Brees' right arm is responsible for setting a slew of NFL records and leading a New Orleans renaissance, it's his eyes that have allowed that to happen.

The Patriots (4-1) will be prepared to defend against both weapons Sunday when Brees leads the Saints (5-0) into a showdown against the AFC East leaders.

"He does a great job of looking guys off and understanding what defence you're in," Patriots safety Steve Gregory said.

New England's defence this season has slowed some of the NFL's better quarterbacks, but the Saints' second-ranked passing offence is a different animal.

Brees is a seven-time Pro Bowl standout, and is on pace for his third straight 5,000-yard season. He has thrown for 1,722 yards — second only to Denver's Peyton Manning — with 12 touchdowns and four interceptions in guiding the Saints to their best start since 2009.

That's also the last time these two teams met, a game the Patriots probably would like to forget.

Brees carved up New England in a 38-17 win Nov. 30, 2009, throwing for 371 yards and five TDs while amassing a perfect 158.3 passer rating.

"They definitely play at a high tempo. They like to get up to the ball and get things going quickly so we'll have to be ready for that," Gregory said. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Yard chewer

593

Drew Brees' favourite target has been virtually unstoppable this season. Tight end Jimmy Graham has 37 receptions for a league-leading 593 yards and six touchdowns.

Ad campaign

Nickname debate follows Redskins on the road

The Oneida Indian Nation said Thursday it will air a radio ad called "Bipartisan" on the Dallas Cowboys' flagship station ahead of Sunday's game against the Washington Redskins.

The ad features U.S. President Barack Obama — a Democrat — saying he would think about changing the name, and Congressman Tom Cole — a Republican — saying the name is "offensive."

The ad is part of an anti-"Redskins" campaign slated to air in cities where the Redskins play on the road. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Megatron mystery

Johnson back in action in Detroit

Calvin Johnson was back on the practice field for the Detroit Lions. That doesn't mean his status for this weekend is determined.

"I don't have any updates on him," coach Jim Schwartz said.

Johnson was inactive in a loss at Green Bay last week with an injured right knee. He didn't participate in every drill Thursday, but did some footwork and pass-catching exercises. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Cruz representing the rainbow in title fight

Orlando Cruz GETTY IMAGES

Orlando Cruz won the fight of his life when he came out last year as the first openly gay fighter in boxing.

Now he's in a fight of another kind, a championship battle Saturday night that is the biggest bout of his professional career.

"It's my dream and it's my time," Cruz said. "I've been waiting a long time to fight for the championship and I plan to make history."

Cruz takes on fellow veteran Orlando Salido in a fight for a piece of the featherweight title on the undercard of Timothy Bradley's fight with Juan Manuel Marquez. He'll do it wearing rainbow colours on his boxing trunks, his way of showing support for others in the gay and lesbian community.

"This is for all of them," Cruz said. "But this is for me, too. It's a beautiful opportunity for me, and it's my moment."

The trunks have caused some controversy in his native Puerto Rico because the design is a Puerto Rican flag with the rainbow colours in place of the usual colours. But Cruz said his intention was always to honour his country while also making a statement for gay rights.

"Some people are mad at me, but I don't care," he said. "I respect the Puerto Rican flag. There were no bad intentions in the design of the trunks." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MLB

"We're going to continue to keep that sail up on that boat and keep going."

Pittsburgh centre-fielder Andrew McCutchen after the Pirates were eliminated from the playoffs by the St. Louis Cardinals on Wednesday. It was the Pirates' first post-season appearance in 21 years.

Tennis

Wawrinka wraps up Raonic in Shanghai

Canada's Milos Raonic was eliminated from the Shanghai Masters after losing 7-6 (2), 6-4 to Switzerland's Stanislas Wawrinka in the third round on Thursday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Stanislas Wawrinka celebrates Thursday in Shanghai GETTY IMAGES

2015 Pan Am Games

Cyclist named chef de mission

Curt Harnett will be Canada's chef de mission when Toronto hosts the 2015 Pan American Games. Harnett is the only Canadian cyclist to win three Olympic medals, capturing silver in 1984, and then bronze at both the 1992 and 1996 Games. THE CANADIAN PRESS

IndyCar

Franchitti released from hospital

Three-time Indianapolis 500 winner Dario Franchitti was released from hospital Thursday, four days after fracturing his spine and breaking his ankle in an IndyCar crash. He will be replaced by Alex Tagliani in the Oct. 19 season finale. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

4 SPORTS

Horoscopes

♈ Aries
March 21 - April 20
Why are you so angry? Whatever the reason, you need to get over it because if you don't it will spoil your weekend. You just tell yourself that who or what upset you isn't worth the trouble.

♉ Taurus
April 21 - May 21
You may find it difficult to get your own way today but maybe that's not a bad thing. Sometimes it pays to let other people take decisions for you and the planets suggest this could be one such occasion.

♊ Gemini
May 22 - June 21
Identify your priorities and focus on them to the exclusion of everything else. You may have plenty of physical and mental energy at your disposal, thanks to the Sun in Libra, but it will go fast if you waste it.

♋ Cancer
June 22 - July 23
Listen to your instincts and do what they tell you, even if it puts you at odds with people you work with. Best of all, do something a bit outrageous — it will get you talked about.

♌ Leo
July 24 - Aug. 23
Someone you are fond of will act in a manner that annoys you. Do you speak up about it? Only you can decide but remember, real friends are those who tell the unvarnished truth.

♍ Virgo
Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
If you come on too strong with someone today, your efforts could be self-defeating. Some respond to threats, others to flattery. Get them mixed up and you may get no response.

♎ Libra
Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
What seemed so important earlier in the week does not seem so important now and probably won't mean a thing to you over the weekend. That's good. What else is there in your life you can safely ignore?

♏ Scorpio
Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Health, wealth and happiness can and will be yours between now and the start of next week. The right opportunities will arrive at the right time. All you have to do is take advantage.

♐ Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
You may want to shut yourself away and avoid the world at large but if you do, you may miss out on a fun social event. It will be even more fun if you are there, so stop moping.

♑ Capricorn
Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Opportunities for happiness and success are around you but you will miss them unless you raise your eyes for a moment from whatever mundane task it is you are lost in.

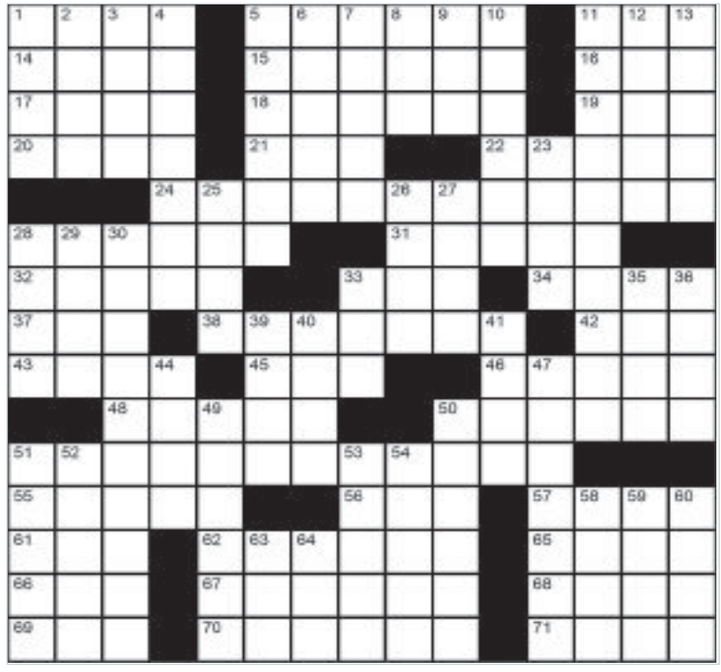
♒ Aquarius
Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
There will be major upheavals in your working life over the next few days but if you stay calm, you will come through unscathed. Not only that but you may find yourself moving swiftly up the ladder of success.

♓ Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
There are so opportunities coming your way and if you take advantage of even a few of them, you'll have a major breakthrough. Don't look back and wish you had been more adventurous. **SALLY BROMPTON**

Crossword: Canada Across and Down

See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers.

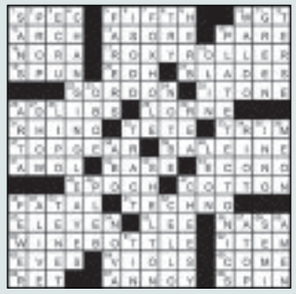
BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



Across
1. Pare
5. "Moves Like __" by Maroon 5
11. "Johnny B. Goode" singer ...his initials-sharers
14. Vagabond
15. Where to serve stir-fry veggies: 2 wds.
16. 'Motor' suffix
17. Colossal
18. Away-from-work break
19. Yea ...not
20. Raised flatland
21. Alien sitcom
22. "__ __ big deal really."
24. 'Furiosity' is the new album by this hard rocking Hamilton band: 2 wds.
28. __-cutting ceremony
31. Ingredient in pesto
32. The Koh-_-__ Diamond
33. Mr. Stiller
34. Yacks
37. Fido's foot
38. Vegan's meal choice for #51-Across, perhaps
42. Afternoon social
43. Director Mr. Lee's
45. Vienna's country, for short
46. Without _ __ (Quietly)
48. "You __" by Alanis Morissette
50. Pie parts
51. Fall feast
55. Prefix meaning 'Straight'
56. Funny magazine
57. Clean
61. Singer Ms. DiFranco
62. Fall, as a government
65. Voice variety
66. __-med student
67. Author: French
68. Foul food
69. "My dear fellow."
70. Gets less fresh, as bread
71. Hoopla

Down
1. Group for Van Morrison
2. Knot-maker's need
3. Nile wader
4. El __ Tavern (Famous Toronto music venue)
5. Classical music composer, __ Sebastian Bach
6. Indigo dyes
7. Surgical transplant
8. "Move along!"
9. Old French coin
10. Takes to one's seat again
11. Types of foreign government buildings in Ottawa
12. Mel of funny cartoon voices
13. Give the green-light: 2 wds.
23. Li'l math course
25. __ cloud, as per Astronomy
26. Celebrity hairstylist Jose
27. Grade
28. Daytime TV's Kelly
29. __ uproar: 2 wds.
30. Frigidly formidable formation in Banff National Park: 2 wds.
33. The Hollies hit: "__ Stop"
35. Red veggie
36. Drains
39. Voyageur's blades
40. Juno-winning composer, Vivian __
41. Scarf stuff
44. Put in the post
47. Village in Nova Scotia
49. Some large dogs
50. Apple drinks
51. Snares
52. Mr. 'Pocket Rocket' Richard, Hockey Hall of Famer
53. Urge forward
54. Appraise
58. Calista's defining TV role
59. Cease
60. Wish for
63. Trendy no more
64. Harper Valley, e.g.

Yesterday's Crossword



Sudoku

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.

	1		6	2	3		4	
2								6
		4				1		
6	4		1		8		7	2
				4				
1	8		9		7		3	4
		1				3		
5								9
	3		4	5	1		6	

Yesterday's Sudoku

9	6	2	1	4	5	8	7	3
1	5	3	8	2	7	4	6	9
4	8	7	6	3	9	5	2	1
2	7	9	5	8	6	3	1	4
6	3	8	4	7	1	2	9	5
5	4	1	3	9	2	6	8	7
7	9	5	2	6	3	1	4	8
8	1	6	9	5	4	7	3	2
3	2	4	7	1	8	9	5	6

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